

## I. AMENDMENTS

### IA. AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph on page 1, beginning on line 9, as follows:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10.040,315, filed October 29, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of application serial no. 09/339,472 filed on June 23, 1999; which application claims priority to the filing date of United States Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/107,771 filed November 9, 1998, the disclosure of which is herein incorporated by reference; and which application is also a continuation-in-part of PCT application serial no. PCT/US98/17883, filed August 28, 1998; and a continuation in part of application serial no. 09/103,754, filed June 24, 1998; this the disclosures of which applications are herein incorporated by reference in their entirety.

Please amend the paragraph on page 1, beginning on line 4, as follows:

This invention was made with Government support under Grant Nos. RO52069, RO57170, DK26356, and DK56084 ~~R01-52069 and R01-57170~~ awarded by the National Institutes of Health and support from the Veteran's Administration. The Government has certain rights in this invention.